

Welcome to the **Missouri Film News**, a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Missouri Film Office a part of the Missouri Division of Tourism. Here you'll get the latest updates on film and digital production in Missouri and learn about creative media events happening across our state.

## From the Division of Tourism Director:

*"I thought the script was a fair portrayal of Walt as a mogul but also as an artist and a human being."*

-Saving Mr. Banks director John Lee Hancock



[Saving Mr. Banks](#) in theatres now, chronicles Walt Disney's work – and struggles – to adapt the "Mary Poppins" books for the big screen. Disney is an important figure in Missouri's landscape of famous faces. He spent a formative part of his childhood in Marceline and later lived and worked in Kansas City.

It was in Marceline, a small community in northwest Missouri, where Disney learned to draw and became fascinated with trains (some 70 trains still pass through town each day). Although he lived in Marceline for just four years, the city was etched in Disney's memory. Marceline served as the model for Main Street USA at Disneyland, and to this day, sweet-seekers at the amusement park find their fill at a shop named Marceline's Confectionery. Also, Disney had a significant impact on Marceline. After his rise to fame, Disney returned on several occasions and Marceline embraced its favorite son. Disney's life is commemorated at the [Walt Disney Hometown Museum](#) in Marceline, while the city's post office and elementary school bear his name.

In 1922, Disney worked out of his Laugh-O-Gram Studios on East 31<sup>st</sup> Street in Kansas City. That is where Disney was first inspired by a pet mouse. The not-for-profit group, [Thank You, Walt Disney](#), is working to renovate the building and open an animation museum there. Disney's time in Missouri merits a quick shout-out in the new film, as Disney (played by Tom Hanks) says, "... I was just a kid from Missouri with a sketch of Mickey."

Tom Hanks is the [first actor to play Disney on the big screen](#). Also look for MU grad Melanie Paxson, who plays Disney's Secretary, Dolly, in the film. See the movie, and then make plans to visit Walt Disney's Missouri.

-Katie Steele Danner

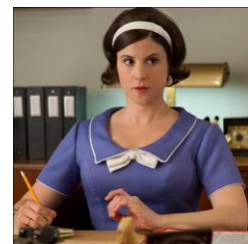
## Production News

Do you have production news or photos from set to share?

E-mail us at [mofilm@ded.mo.gov](mailto:mofilm@ded.mo.gov).



Walt Disney & Tom Hanks as Walt Disney,  
MU grad and actress Melanie Paxson



A Chicago production company shot a commercial in St. Louis; **The History Channel** was in Kansas City, [Jackson Appleton](#) and Bass Pro shot a [Tracker Boat Christmas Commercial](#) in Springfield; **The Cooking Channel** shot in Kansas City; a reality production company out of Texas shot in St. Louis; **The Food Network** shot in Kansas City; a documentary production company from New York shot in St. Louis; *Bar Rescue* filmed in Kansas City; Coolfire Media shows *Thrift Store Divas* and *Salvage City* shot in St. Louis; *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives* shot in Kansas City; [MU Online](#) shot commercials in Columbia; commercials for HCA Hospital, Intrust Bank, VML, and Merial shot in Kansas City.

Coolfire Original's new show, [Salvage City](#), debuted on **The Discovery Channel** Dec. 22. The new series highlights St. Louis as star Sam Coffey and his salvage crew break into abandoned buildings, save landfill-bound treasures, and transform them into timeless pieces.

### Missouri News

Congrats to Mid-Mo native **Andrew Droz Palermo**, co-director of the Mo-filmed 2014 **Sundance Film Festival documentary competition** entry [Rich Hill](#). The city of Rich Hill is located in Bates County off Highway 49, south of Kansas City. Sundance description: "Filmmaking cousins Tracy Droz Tragos and Andrew Droz Palermo embark upon an immersive and dazzlingly cinematic journey into the lives of three Rich Hill boys navigating the often-treacherous road between childhood and adolescence." We will be at Sundance to cheer the film to success and encourage other filmmakers attending Sundance to film in Missouri. Representatives from the Kansas City Film Fest will be joining the Film Office's Andrea Sporcic in Park City, Utah.



In November, Missouri Western State University opened [The Walter Cronkite Memorial](#), a public tribute to St. Joseph's beloved native son. The memorial is a comprehensive collection of items designed to honor the CBS News Anchor. Through photos, video clips, personal memorabilia and an autobiographical video of Cronkite, the visitor is taken back in time to when Cronkite was known as "the most trusted man in America."



Calling all student filmmakers! The first-ever **White House Student Film Festival** is taking entries, from K-12 students from around the country, of 1-3 minute short web videos. Finalists could have their videos screened at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., and posted on the White House website. The deadline is January 29. Get all the details [here](#).

Kansas City and the Kansas City Film Fest are partnering to create the [Kansas City Stories](#) category for the 2014 Kansas City Film Fest. They are seeking short films (2-8 minutes) that feature Kansas City. The winning entry will premiere at the April 5-14 festival and will be featured on KCCG-TV. The deadline is March 1.

**International Production in Missouri:** Sprechen Sie Deutsch? A **German television crew** filmed in St. Louis and S. Charles this summer exploring the Oregon Trail and how Missouri played a part in western expansion. Here is a [link](#) to the finished product. And, several years ago, a **Swiss film crew** shot scenes in mid-Missouri for a documentary-drama hybrid about Iris Von Roten, considered the first feminist in Switzerland. Columbia's Beth Pike was U.S. production manager on the shoot and Randy Sinquefield and his [Spectrum Studios](#) crew worked on the project which filmed on campus at MU and in Fulton. Many other locals worked as extra and production assistants. The film, **Enemies in Love**, was completed and received a nomination for the **Swiss Film Award for Best Feature**. Although it didn't win, it has toured film festivals in Europe. Beth is hoping to bring the film to Columbia for a screening later this year. Until then, check out the beautiful [trailer](#).



Did you attend the **22<sup>nd</sup> St. Louis International Film Festival** in November? If so, you know it was a very successful year with attendance at nearly 24,000. Click [HERE](#) for a list of the 2013 film awards; also the fest awarded Oliver Stone a Lifetime Achievement Award. If you missed it, check out this [video](#), then mark your calendar for next **Nov. 13 – 23** and make plans to go.

On Nov. 21, Chillicothe was the star of the show at the [premiere of the PBS documentary, "Slice of Life."](#) Produced by KCPT, the 27-minute piece reveals that Chillicothe was the first place in the world where sliced bread was sold. Following the screening, guests attended a 1920s-inspired reception at the Chillicothe Country Club. The documentary will first air on KCPT, then on PBS affiliates across the country. Check your local listings, it's the best thing since...well you know. (pictured right: Amy Supple, Chillicothe CVB; Dave Burkhardt and Randy Mason, KCPT; Andrea Sporcic, Missouri Film Office; Ed Douglas, Chair of the Home of Sliced Bread Committee; Cathy Ripley, editor for the Chillicothe Constitution Tribune)



## Headlines

### [Out to Lunch with John Goodman](#)

"Perhaps his Midwestern roots conspire against any self-importance."

### [KC filmmakers find ways to thrive, but loss of tax incentives could hurt](#)

### [St. Louisan leads team on 'Ultimate Survival Alaska'](#)

### [Teens compete in KC for a spot on 'Jeopardy'](#)

### [Hollywood lighting expert shares skills at CTC](#)

### ['Deadline in Disaster' wins China Academy Award for foreign language film](#)

### [Filmmaker Nathan Sutton Comes Home to Screen Debut Feature, \*Autumn Wanderer\*](#)

### [Silicon Valley firm will open small office in Kansas City](#)

### [St. Louisan nets \\$55000 investment on ABC's Shark Tank](#)

### [Hannibal Native's Short Film Earns Accolades](#)

### [Fault-Line Film Festival Entries to be Honored](#)

### [Video Seeks to Debunk St. Louis Crime Rankings](#)

### [Struggling KC bar RG's Lounge gets TV's 'Bar Rescue' visit](#)

### [Short Film Series Promotes Small Businesses in St. Louis](#)

### [TV show puts spotlight on rural places, people](#)

### [Mac Lethal is getting a TV show on FX based on Texts From Bennett](#)

KC rapper/pancake flipper Mac Lethal released a novel ... that FX has purchased...to adapt a television show



[David Fincher's Gone Girl Featured on the Cover of EW](#)  
[First photo of Ben Affleck as Nick Dunne](#)



[Documentary Film Investigates Branson, Missouri Beyond the Stereotypes](#)



[Columbia native Brock makes mark by directing 'Dead,' more](#)



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